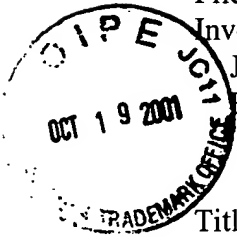


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/886,456
Filed: June 20, 2001
Inventor(s):
Jeffrey D. Washington and Paul
F. Austin



Title: System and Method for
Programmatically Creating
Nodes in a Graphical
Program with Minimal
Graphical Code

Examiner: Unknown
Group/Art Unit: 2173
Atty. Dkt. No: 5150-48400

RECEIVED
OCT 24 2001
Technology Center 2100

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Office of Initial Patent Examination, Customer Service Center, Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey C. Hood

Name of Registered Representative

Jeffrey C. Hood
Signature

10/16/2001
Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-captioned case.

Please amend the case as listed below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend priority claim at the beginning of the Application.

Priority Claim

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/745,023 titled, "System and Method for Programmatically Generating a Graphical Program in Response to Program Information," filed December 20, 2000, whose inventors were Ram Kudukoli, Robert Dye, Paul F. Austin, Lothar Wenzel and Jeffrey L. Kodosky, which is a CIP of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/518,492 titled "System and Method for Programmatically Creating a Graphical Program", filed March 3, 2000, whose inventors